

#16B/12

02-12-03



Docket No. A018US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Gotwals, et al.

Application No.: 09/423,018 Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: October 12, 2000 Examiner: Janet Andres Ph.D.

Title: TYPE II TGF-BETA RECEPTOR/IMMUNOGLOBULIN CONSTANT REGION FUSION PROTEINS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO JULY 30, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated July 30, 2002 ("Office Action") issued in connection with the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 8, 9, and 11-21 were withdrawn from consideration on May 21, 2002, solely in response to the restriction requirement imposed in the Office Action dated March 22, 2002. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the nonelected claims in another application.

Claims 1-7 and 10 are under consideration. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 10 (the "Claims") have been rejected. Claim 5 has been allowed.

Applicants respectfully request that the instant application be amended as follows.

In The Specification

In the specification, at page 30, lines 11-18, replace the paragraph with the following:

-- Like most mammalian genes, mammalian TGF-beta receptors are presumably encoded by multi-exon genes. Alternative mRNA constructs which can be attributed to different mRNA splicing events following transcription, and which share large regions

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